

Message Text

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USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, PGOV, UR, S
SUBJECT: PRESS ARTICLE ON RFE/RL PERSONNEL

1. JULY 17 MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA CARRIES A LONG ARTICLE BY YU. KARCHEVSKIY UNDER THE RUBRIC, "IDEOLOGICAL DIVERSIONISTS" AND ENTITLED "AND WHO ARE THE JUDGES". THE ARTICLE IS DEVOTED TO TENDENTIOUS BIOGRAPHIES OF THREE SENIOR RFE/RL OFFICIALS: GEORGE PERRY, JON LODESON AND ROBERT REDLICH. ALL THREE ARE ACCUSED OF WORKING FOR THE CIA, WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS BEING THE REAL MASTER OF THE MUNICH RADIO STATIONS.

2. PERRY IS LABELLED A POLE WHO FOUGHT IN SOUTH KOREA FOR THE U.S. ARMY, WHERE HE BECAME A SPY. LATER HE WAS SENT TWICE TO THE USSR ON USIA-SPONSORED EXHIBITS, FOLLOWING WHICH THE CIA ALLEGEDLY ASSIGNED HIM TO MUNICH.

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3. STATING THAT REDLICH WAS BORN IN VIENNA "INTO A JEWISH FAMILY", FOUGHT IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR FOR THE AMERICAN ARMY, AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY A CORRESPONDENT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT IN 1952 THE CIA SENT HIM TO "RADIO LIBERATION" NOW RL. IN HIS PRESENT POSITION HE IS DESCRIBED AS ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE WESTERN PUBLIC OPINION CONCERNING THE VALUE

OF THE RADIO STATIONS.

4. THE DESCRIPTION OF LODESON IS BY FAR THE LONGEST AND MOST SLANDEROUS. IT ALLEGES THAT HE BECAME A CIA AGENT BY ACCIDENT, AS A RESULT OF LEARNING RUSSIAN IN THE ARMY. IN 1961 HE WAS SENT TO BRAZIL WHERE HE WAS UNMASKED AS A CIA AGENT. SUBSEQUENTLY SENT TO THE "SPY SCHOOL" IN GARMISCH, HE WENT TO MOSCOW IN 1966 AS A SECOND SECRETARY BUT DID NOT SPEND MUCH TIME ON DIPLOMACY. INSTEAD HE MET WITH SOVIET WRITERS, ARTISTS, ETC. FOLLOWING HIS SOVIET ASSIGNMENT, THE CIA SENT HIM TO THE NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND AFTER THAT TO MUNICH WHERE HIS SUBSEQUENT CAREER IN RL IS DESCRIBED.

5. COMMENT: THIS ARTICLE, IN THE MOSCOW CITY PARTY PAPER, IS THE FIRST EXTENSIVE MEDIA CRITICISM OF RFE/RL THAT WE HAVE SEEN IN SOME TIME. WHILE THE SOVIETS COMMONLY ALLEGE A RFE/RL-CIA CONNECTION, IT IS UNUSUAL THAT THIS PIECE IS DEVOTED UNIQUELY TO PERSONAL ATTACKS ON THREE SENIOR RFE/RL OFFICIALS. THE ARTICLE SIMPLY STOPS THERE WITHOUT REFERRING TO ANY OF THE NUMEROUS OTHER SUBJECTS DEAR TO SOVIET PROPAGANDISTS IN THEIR ANTI-RFE/RL CAMPAIGN.

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